

CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT: Karen Terrill
Public Information Officer
916 654-7554

RELEASE
DATE: May 13, 2004

Camp Grounds Will Open on the JDSF

Sacramento- The campgrounds on the Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) in Mendocino County will be open for public use this summer after all, beginning Friday, May 14th and continuing through Tuesday, September 7th. That announcement was made today by Andrea Tuttle, Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

JDSF management had previously notified the public that the campgrounds, which have been popular for many years, would be closed this year due to budget cuts. However, Director Tuttle has advised Forest Manager Marc Jameson that funds will be redirected to sustain the campgrounds through the Labor Day weekend. "Public use is a core function in the multiple use concept of the California Demonstration State Forests", said Director Tuttle. "We have had to make drastic cuts and people will probably notice that many of the services and activities that they are used to are not being supported. But it is important that we provide the public an opportunity to enjoy this forest and experience how sustainable forest management and recreation can be complementary uses."

For fiscal year 2004-05 only, a new funding source may provide some relief for the state forest system. The Renewable Resources Investment Fund has been proposed to keep the state demonstration forests open and running on a temporary basis. State forest managers are hoping those funds will keep them going until a new management plan is approved for JDSF. That plan will allow the JDSF to resume its timber management activities, thereby making the state forest system self-sustaining. There are eight demonstration state forests in California.

"The funding is a bit patch-work right now. But these are unusual times. We don't know what tomorrow will bring," said Director Tuttle. "For the time being, I invite the public to come and visit the beautiful Jackson Demonstration State Forest."

###